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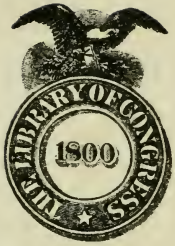

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LIBERTY
ENLIGHTENING THE WORLD

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THE BARTHOLDI STATUE OF LIBERTY

is rapidly nearing completion, and will probably be thrown open to the public, with appropriate ceremonies, on the 19th of October. At this time the whole civilized world will be talking about it. It is the wonder of the age! Magnificent and stupendous!

In order that enterprising publishers may be provided with suitable illustrations for the occasion we have prepared these seven cuts and descriptive article to accompany the same.

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LIBERTY ENLIGHTENING THE WORLD.

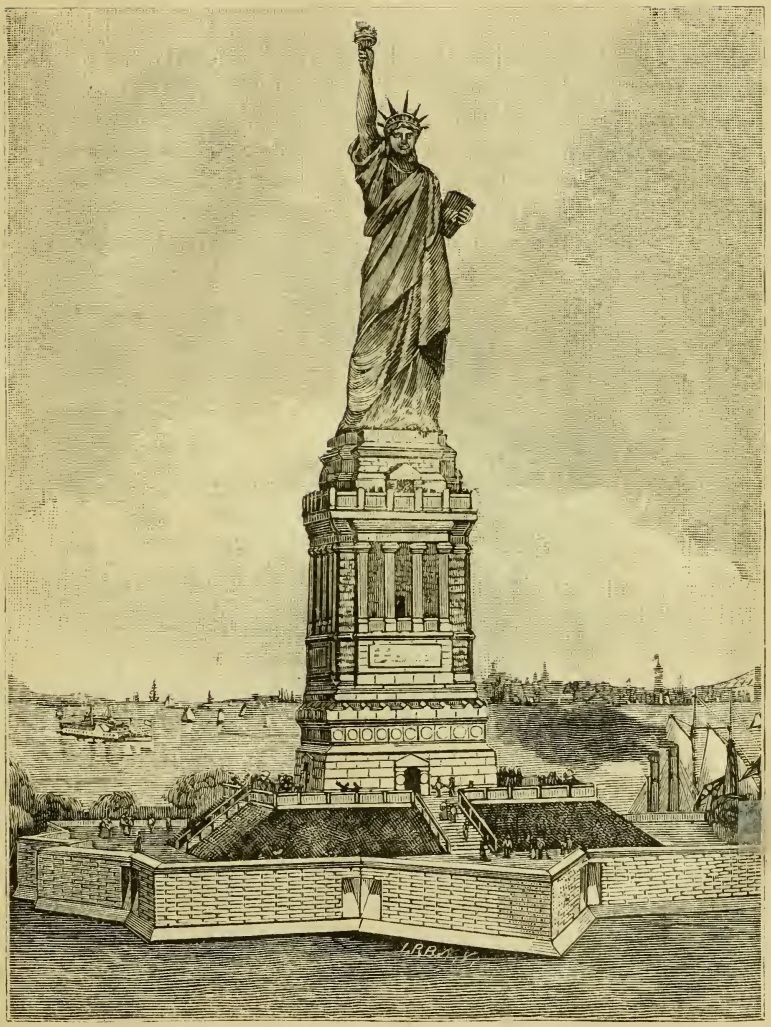
Bartholdi Statue.

The Wonder of the Century.

On a pretty little island of about 13 acres extent, situated in New York Harbor, is an old fort. In the middle of this is the Bartholdi Statue of Liberty Enlightening the World. This stupenduous statue is the largest ever erected, being 305 feet above tide water.

Bedloe's Island on which it is situated is one of the most accessible as well as one of the most pleasant breathing spots around New York. The solid granite walls of the old fort, which are in good condition, balance well the height of the Statue and contrast nicely with the beautiful grass and shade trees with which the island is covered.

This statue, which is now attracting the eyes of the world, is a gift of the French people to America. A party of French gentlemen having made up their minds that it would be a good thing to get up a costly gift, to be paid for by small subscriptions of the masses; engaged Auguste Bartholdi, a young and promising sculptor, to carry out their idea; sent him to America to confer with a committee here as to what the most acceptable form of the good will of France to America would be. On his arrival, he was struck with the beauty of New York's harbor, and seeing Bedloe's Island conceiv-

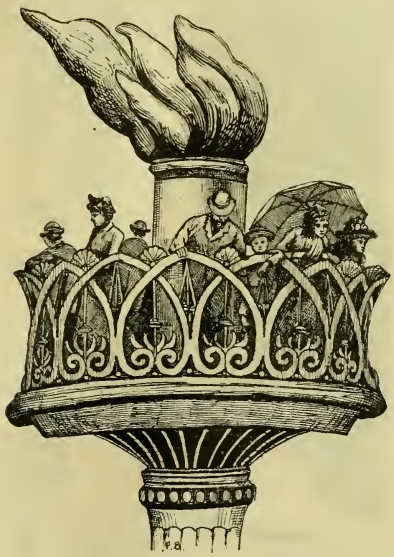


ed the idea of an immense statue which should be much larger than anything yet heard of. As Liberty had its birth in this country, it seemed right that the statue should represent "Liberty Enlightening the World." This would be a lasting acknowledgement of France's good will and at the same time light up the harbor at night and be a great benefit.

After he arrived at home the plan was put into execution, the money raised and work commenced on the Statue, the weight of which is 440,000pounds, of which 176,000 are copper and the remainder wrought iron The height of the Statue is 151 feet and that of the pedestal 150 feet. The cost of making it was $40,000 which does not include making models, &c., but simply the manufacture of the statue.The pedestal, which was built by American subscriptions and an appropriation of Congress for putting up the Statue, has cost $250,000.

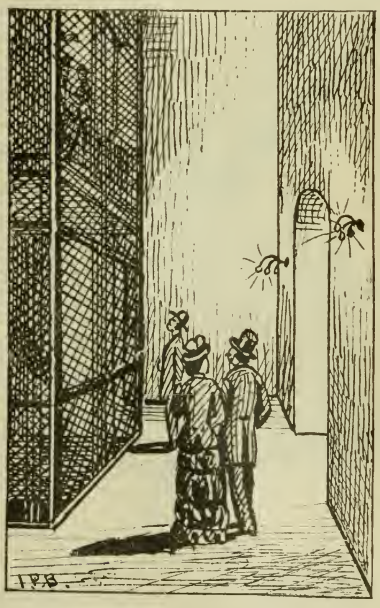
The pedestal will contain elevators to convey sight-seers up and down, and the look-out on the torch may be reached by stairs through the statue. To give some idea of the size of this enormous undertaking, we state that twelve persons can stand on the torch at one time, from which a magnificant veiw can be obtained. The width of the eye is 28 inches, and the length of the nose 3 feet 9 inches and the forefinger is 7 feet 11 inches long.

The statue will be lighted by electric lights in and around it. The electric lights in the torch will be so arranged that the flames will not be seen, but a strong reflector placed under the lights will throw powerful rays of light skyward that may be seen far out at sea. Another series of simliar lights will be placed in the torch with another reflector that



will throw the rays of light in the face of the statue. Electric lights will also be arranged at each of the four corners at the top of the pedestal. The effect of the combination of these lights will be to illuminate the statue at night, so that it will loom up grandly in the surrounding darkness. To protect the statue from lightning, four rods will be bunched at

the top of the torch, which after passing down through the interior of the statue, will be seperated and one of the rods will pass down at each corner of the pedestal where openings have been left for them, and so down through the ground until water is reached. It is believed that with these rods the



statue is perfectly protected from destruction by lightning. In the course of erection it was struck a number of times without damage, thus proving that there need be no apprehension on this score.

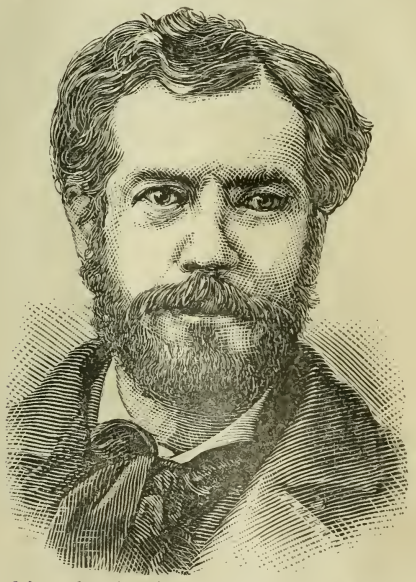
It may at this time be appropriate to say a few words

about the men who had so much to do in making the statue what it is. Auguste Bartholdi, the designer of the statue, watched step by step its construction in one of the best metal works in Paris. Richard M. Hunt has the honor of designing the pedestal, and Gen. Stone, the engineer-in-chief, had charge of the construction of the pedestal and of putting the statue in place after it had been brought over from France in small peices, to be riveted together into one beautiful mass. If space permitted we might mention many others who did good work on the Committee, raising money etc. But the

three we mention had work to do which has at last taken solid form and shape, and resulted in this wonderful production of brains and skill.

Auguste Fredericke Bartholdi, this most distinguished living sculptor of collossal statuary, was born at Colmar in 1833. He started life as a painter, but soon turned his attention to sculpture. At the age of nineteen he produced a notable bas-relief of Francesca da Rimini, which won him his first laurels. During the Franco-German war he fought as a volunteer. In 1878 he produced the "Lion of Belfort," a

collossal monument to the heroism of a beleaguered garrison, carved in solid rock. In recognition of this brilliant work the Government bestowed on him the Cross of the Legion of Honor. Among his other important work may be mentioned "Vercingetorix," the old Gallic patriot, and the graceful statue of "Lafayette" in Union Square, New York. At the Centennial Exhibition he was awarded the medal for



sculpture for his "Genius in the Grasp of Misery," "Peace," and "The Young Vine-Grower," all in bronze. More than ten years Bartholdi devoted to his gigantic work, making many personal sacrifices in striving to accomplish his great life-purpose. He has, however, found his reward; his name will be immortal!

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